2. PARAMILITARY FORCES

As per information reveived from Ministry of Home Affairs the number of persons recruited in Para Military Forces (PMFs) viz. Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), Border Security Force (BSF), Central Industrial Security Force (CISF), Indo Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) and Assam Rifles (AR) during the years 1997, 1998 and 1999 are as under:—

Force	General			SC (Scheduled Caste)			ST(Scheduled Tribe)			OBC (Other Backward Classes)		
	1977	1998	1999	1997	1998	1999	1997	1998	1999	1997	1998	1999
CRPF	18	53	11	12	15	04	07	10	06	16	24	29
BSF	06	50	25	02	15	12	01	08	03	03	27	10
CISF	11	—	04	05	—	02	02	—	01	03	—	03
ITBP	06	—	81	—	—	16	02	—	12	—	—	16
AR	—	__	35	—	—	09	—	—	—	—	—	56

In Paramilitary forces a State/Union Territory is considered as one unit, and therefore, district wise information is not maintained. Separate statistics are also not available for hill and .plain areas.

Purchase of arms, ammunitions and stores

2148. SHRI DINA NATH MISHRA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total purchase of arms, ammunitions and stores by Defence Ministry during last five years;

(b) how much of that has been from Indian ordnance factories, private factories; and from foreign firms separately; and

(c) how many purchases have been done from foreign firms, through Indian as well as foreign agents separately?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b) The total purchases of arms, ammunitions and stores by the Defence Ministry during the last five years was Rs. 94,055.30 crores. Out of this, the total purchase from Indian ordnance factories was Rs. 13,107.75 crores and Rs. 80947.55 crores from private factories and foreign firms together.

(c) The existing Government instructions debar the involvement of agents in the procurement of weapons and weapon systems for the Armed Forces.

Contracts concluded by the Ministry of Defence stipulate a clause on non-involvement of agents specifying that in case at a later date agents are found to be involved in a contract, the contract will be liable for termination along with refund of payments made under the contract with interest and blacklisting of the company for a minimum period of five years. The amount paid as commission to the agent will also have to be refunded. The Government has recently requested the Central Vigilance Commission to thoroughly investigate the alleged irregularities in all major defence procurement decision since the involvement of agents in the procurement of weapons and weapon system was banned by the Government in 1989.

Satellites for defence purposes

2149. SHRI E. BALANANDAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there exists any satellites for defence purpose;

(b) if so, whether the satellites were not being utilised to detect Pakistani terrorists infiltration at Kargil and other areas;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether robots with full electronic devices can be used in inaccessible areas in high altitudes for security purposes?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c) There is no dedicated Satellite for defence purpose. However, whenever there is a requirement, data from civil satellites are used for defence purposes.

(d) Robots with full electronic devices can not be used in inaccessible areas in high altitude because of terrain contraints and prevailing technology limitation.

Legislation for terrorist related crime

2150. SHRI NARENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the recent hijacking of Indian Airlines plane Government are thinking of a suitable legislation which would provide for severe punishment for terrorist related crimes, including offences connected with hijacking of aircrafts and also aiming at combating international terrorism;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and